

PHARMACEUTICAL APPLICATION OF 15- OR 16-SUBSTITUTED TESTOSTERONE ANALOGUES

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

The invention relates to pharmaceutical dosage units for oral, transmucosal or transdermal administration containing 15- or 16-substituted testosterone analogues, as well as to therapeutic methods that employ these testosterone analogues. More particularly, the invention is concerned with such pharmaceutical dosage units containing at least 10 μ g of an androgenic steroid selected from the group consisting of 15-hydroxytestosterones, 16-hydroxytestosterones, precursors thereof and mixtures of these hydroxytestosterones and/or their precursors; and a pharmaceutically acceptable excipient. The term "15-hydroxytestosterones" encompasses both 15 α -hydroxytestosterone (15 α , 17 β -dihydroxy-4-androsten-3-one) and 15 β -hydroxytestosterone (15 β , 17 β -dihydroxy-4-androsten-3-one). Similarly, the term "16-hydroxytestosterones" encompasses both 16 α -hydroxytestosterone (16 α , 17 β -dihydroxy-4-androsten-3-one) and 16 β -hydroxytestosterone (16 β , 17 β -dihydroxy-4-androsten-3-one). The androgenic steroids according to the invention are advantageously employed in e.g. a method of treating or preventing androgen deficiency or a method of hormonal contraception.